



2001 Wetlands Reserve Program

Customer Focus:

Bill Quigg owns the Cottonwood Ranch located along the Humptulips River in Grays Harbor County. The ranch is the first WRP restoration cost-share agreement project in the State.

The concept behind the project is to control surface drainage in order to restore historic wetland conditions in the pasture. The landowner received cost-share payments for conservation practices installed to restore and manage the wetlands.

Restoration activities on the site focused on the construction of small earthen dikes and installation of small water control structures. Since over half of the ranch is used for beef production, it was necessary to fence the perimeter of the project to control livestock access.

The local Grays Harbor Conservation District partnered with the landowner, NRCS and the Columbia Pacific Resource Conservation and Development Area to coordinate installation of the fence through the "Jobs for Environment Program."

In 1999, Quigg received recognition from the USDA for participating in the WRP.

Washington Summary

Overview

The major objectives of the WRP in Washington are to:

- Provide technical assistance to eligible landowners in developing and implementing wetland restoration plans.
- Provide financial assistance to eligible landowners in restoring wetland and riparian areas to provide habitat for migratory wildlife as well threatened and endangered aquatic wildlife species such as salmon.
- Restore Estuarine habitat for migratory shore birds.

Accomplishments

Washington NRCS developed partnerships with Ducks Unlimited, Federal and State wildlife agencies, the environmental community, county governments, the Nature Conservancy, and land trusts to deliver WRP. With the Fiscal Year 2001 program allocation, NRCS and its partners purchased 11 permanent easements and two cost-share agreements to restore and enhance 3,100 acres of wetlands and associated habitat. The WRP will provide benefits to migratory wildlife and threatened and endangered aquatic wildlife species, such as salmon and trout. Predominant restoration activities include re-establishment of riparian vegetation, restoration of wetlands, micro-topography and connectivity of wetlands with streams, tree/shrub planting, estuarine habitat restoration and moist soil management.

Program Benefits

The partnership between NRCS, Ducks Unlimited, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services, county governments, Nature Conservancy and land trusts provides program participants with technical and financial assistance to:

- Restore wetland, riparian and estuarine habitats critical to migratory wildlife and threatened and endangered aquatic wildlife and plant species.
- Provide floodplain protection and associated property.
- Improve water quality.
- Reduce conversion of agricultural land to urban development.
- Restore plant species critical to Native American culture.

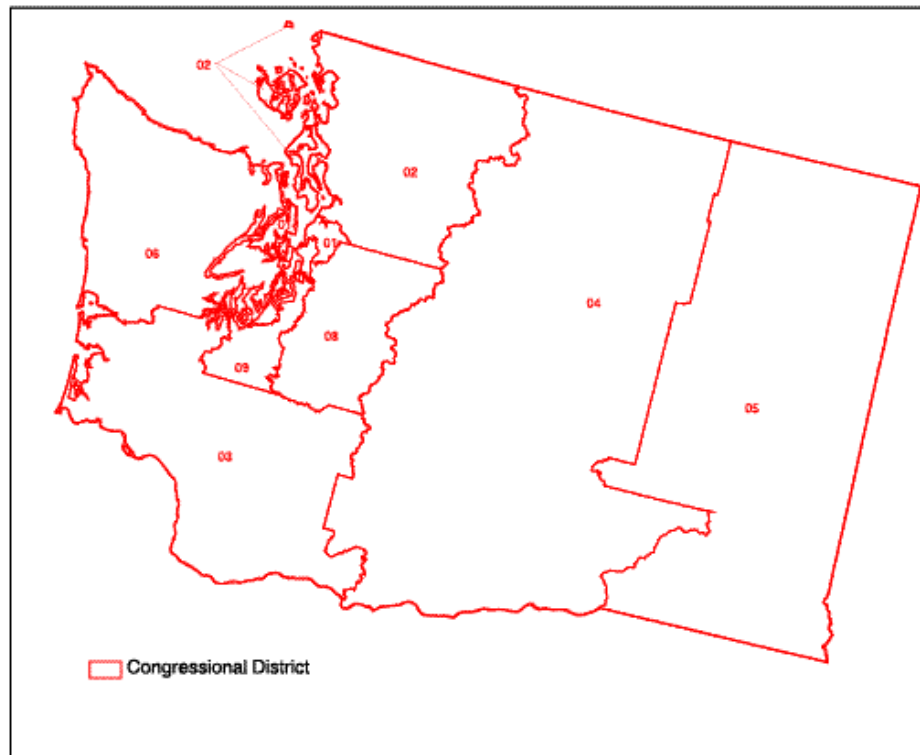
State contact

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Shallow surface water pond on the Cottonwood Ranch

Washington Dollars and Contracts by Congressional District



Washington Dollars and Contracts

	Fiscal Year 2001		Cumulative Total (97-01)	
Congressional Districts	Obligated Dollars	Number of Contracts	Obligated Dollars	Number of Contracts
District 1	\$0	0	\$0	0
District 2	379,828	2	2,524,545	17
District 3	1,618,384	4	10,034,760	30
District 4	1,765,972	2	4,667,151	14
District 5	1,280,290	3	6,013,260	14
District 6	0	0	1,312,137	6
District 7	0	0	0	0
District 8	0	0	0	0
District 9	0	0	139,373	2
State Totals	\$5,044,474	11	\$24,691,226	83

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